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SUBJECT Analysis of the Copper Mining Situation

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1. As early as 1951 it was determined that the assumption that there was a diagonal copper ore deposit (Scholle) at Grossenhain (N52/A01) was incorrect and that for that reason production from this area in the form contemplated was out of the question. Furthermore, a solution to the problem of mining the deposit as it actually is situated could not be implemented within the frame of the Five Year Plan.
2. In Udersleben (M52/D31) exploratory work has been done at the site of ore beds, which is divided into two sections: the north field, where the copper shale (Kupferschiefer) is essentially devoid of ore but where the sand ore (Sandere) does contain copper, and the south field, which up until May 1952 had been investigated only by one exploratory drilling which turned up copper shale worth mining.
3. The trial drillings in the north field have indicated that the deposits there can be classified Category B. The ore bed covers about five million square meters with about 4.3 kilograms of copper per square meter. If the average depth (Maechtigkeit) amounts to seven centimeters, the area will net approximately 20,000 metric tons of copper. Conditions at present make the exploitation of this ore area impossible: the roof rock (Deckgebirge) is full of fissures and channels water. The north field is, therefore, to be considered a reserve area.
4. The deposits which were found worthy of exploitation as a result of trial drilling Number 12 lie to the south in the sand ore area. In May 1952 these deposits were being further investigated up to depths of 500 meters by three drilling rigs. It will probably be necessary to explore to depths of 800 and 1,000 meters. In a report made by the Geological Service on 5 May 1952, it was stated that seven rigs were needed to explore the area.

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Three of the rigs should have a capacity of up to 600 meters and the other four a capacity of up to 1,000 meters. With these seven rigs, nine trial drillings could be completed in 1953, and an area of nine million square meters could be explored. If results of exploratory drillings were encouraging, the approximate location of one shaft could be decided upon, and the work of planning the exploitation of the area could be begun at the earliest by the fourth quarter of 1953.

5. At Badra (M52/D21) work on clearing up the old mine shaft had to be halted because of technological difficulties. It is, therefore, definite that no plans can be made to obtain copper from this area in 1955.
6. Not enough exploratory drillings have been conducted in the Edderitz (M52/D95) area to give a clear picture of the ore bed and its possibilities. Partial exploitation of the area is practically out of the question, and on the basis of the present drilling program it will probably be impossible to determine whether the area should be exploited before some time in 1953.

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